

REMARKS

Claims 22-30 are now pending in the application and stand rejected. Applicants' Amendment After Final of April 21, 2008 was entered, cancelling claims 13-21. With this Preliminary Amendment in the Request for Continued Examination (RCE), Applicants amend claim 22 and add new claims 47-54. Upon entry of the amendments, claims 22-30 and 47-54 remain pending.

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claim 22 has been amended to recite that the expendable polymeric layer is capable of being readily separated from the adhesive layer. Further and favorable consideration is urgently solicited.

NEW CLAIMS

New claims 47-54 are offered further defining the invention. Applicants submit they are patentable over the art of record for the reasons discussed in their after final Amendment. In this regard, Applicants note that claim 47 is similar in scope to allowable claim 22 and properly belongs to the same elected invention. Applicants respectfully request that new claims 47-54 be entered and passed to a state of allowability.

CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that claims 22-30 and 47-54 are in an allowable condition and respectfully request an early Notice of Allowance. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if that would be helpful to resolving any issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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